

(323) 881-2401

August 9, 2004

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

**2004 FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS REPORT**

Our Department, in cooperation with the Office of the State Fire Marshal and fire agencies throughout Southern California, participated in a Fireworks Safety and Educational Program. The information contained in this report is based on data collected from June 17, 2004 through July 17, 2004. Enclosed are copies of the *2004 Fireworks Report*.

An intensive community awareness and public educational campaign on fireworks safety was implemented to encourage attendance at public fireworks displays. We worked closely with law enforcement agencies, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and other fire departments in the confiscation of over 65 tons of illegal fireworks. This year, the fire loss was \$231,125 with three reported fireworks-related injuries. This is a six percent increase from last year's fire loss amount of \$146,470 and a 66% decrease in nine reported fireworks-related injuries.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Battalion Chief Jim Kross, Fire Prevention Division, at (323) 890-4130.

PMF:kj

Enclosures

c: Brian Center  
Randi Tahara  
Joseph Charney  
Rick Velasquez  
Sussy Nemer

## INTRODUCTION

The 2004 Fireworks Damage Report has been completed by the Los Angeles County Fire Department, which is based on all available incident data involving fireworks collected over a one-month period from June 17, 2004 through July 17, 2004.

The purpose of this report is to monitor and document the impact of fireworks on the communities in fifty-seven cities and all unincorporated areas in the County of Los Angeles, otherwise known as the Consolidated Fire Protection District.

The information in this report includes the following:

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A five-year comparison of data is used in this report in order to identify trends reflecting either increases or decreases in the number of injuries and in fire loss.

It should also be noted that the Arson Investigation Unit assisted other fire department and law enforcement agencies, including Los Angeles, El Monte, Glendale, Santa Fe Springs, Area E Arson Task Force and Gargo Cats of the Sheriff Department Special Units in the confiscation of over 65 tons of illegal fireworks during this reporting period.

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## SUMMARY OF FIRE LOSS AND INJURIES

### Number of Fires by Occupancy/Property Type

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Structure	10	1	11
Vegetation	14	3	17
Misc. Property	21	4	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>53</b>

### Type of Fireworks Involved

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Illegal	32	7	39
Unclassified	12	1	13
Safe and Sane	3	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>56</b>

### Structure and Contents Fire Loss

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Structure	\$141,900	\$500	\$142,400
Misc. Property	\$ 88,725	0	\$ 88,725
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$230,625</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$231,125</b>

### Number of Acres of Brush/Grass Fire Loss

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Brush/Grass	5.63 Acres	.53 Acres	6.16 Acres

### Combustible Roof Fire Loss

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Number	4	1	5
Fire Loss	\$25,400	\$500	\$25,900

### *Injuries*

	Cities Served	Unincorporated Areas	Total
Number of Injuries	2	1	3

**INCIDENTS, FIRE LOSS, INJURIES AND TYPE OF FIREWORKS  
BY CITY**

<b>City</b>	<b>Type of Incident**</b>	<b>Fire Loss</b>	<b>Number of Injuries</b>	<b>Type of Fireworks***</b>
Agoura Hills		0	0	N/A
Artesia*		0	0	N/A
Azusa*		0	0	N/A
Baldwin Park*	STR/MISC	\$100	0	ILL
Bell*	STR	\$20,000	0	UNC
Bellflower*		0	0	N/A
Bell Gardens*		0	1	UNC
Bradbury		0	0	N/A
Calabasas		0	0	N/A
Carson*	STR/MISC	\$45,000	0	UNC/SAS
Cerritos		0	0	N/A
Claremont		0	0	N/A
Commerce*		0	0	N/A
Covina	STR	\$10,000	0	UNC
Cudahy*		0	0	N/A
Diamond Bar	STR/MISC	\$5,000	0	ILL
Duarte*		0	0	N/A
El Monte*	VEG/MISC	\$100	0	ILL/SAS
Gardena*		0	0	N/A
Glendora		0	0	N/A
Hawaiian Gardens*		0	0	N/A
Hawthorne*	STR/MISC	\$40,025	0	ILL
Hidden Hills		0	0	N/A
Huntington Park*		0	0	N/A
Industry*		0	0	N/A
Inglewood		0	0	N/A
Irwindale*		0	0	N/A
La Canada Flintridge	VEG/MISC	\$500	0	ILL
La Mirada*		0	0	N/A
La Puente*	MISC	\$1,000	0	ILL

\* Cities permitting the sale of Safe and Sane fireworks

\*\* Type of Incidents:

STR = Structure; VEG = Vegetation; MISC = Miscellaneous Property

\*\*\* Type of Fireworks: ILL = Illegal; UNC = Unclassified; SAS = Safe and Sane

**INCIDENTS, FIRE LOSS, INJURIES AND TYPE OF FIREWORKS  
BY CITY  
(Continued)**

City	Type of Incident**	Fire Loss	Number of Injuries	Type of Fireworks***
Lakewood*	STR	\$ 300	0	UNC
Lancaster	VEG/MISC	0	0	ILL
Lawndale*	MISC	0	0	ILL
Lomita		0	0	N/A
Lynwood	MISC	0	0	ILL
Malibu		0	0	N/A
Maywood*		0	0	N/A
Norwalk*	VEG/MISC	\$ 600	0	ILL/UNC
Palmdale*	VEG	0	0	ILL/UNC
Palos Verdes Estates		0	0	N/A
Paramount*		0	0	N/A
Pico Rivera*	STR/MISC	\$26,000	0	UNC
Pomona		0	0	N/A
Rancho Palos Verdes		0	0	N/A
Rolling Hills		0	0	N/A
Rolling Hills Estates		0	0	N/A
Rosemead*	MISC	0	0	ILL
San Dimas		0	0	N/A
Santa Clarita	MISC	0	0	ILL
Signal Hill		0	0	N/A
South El Monte*		0	0	N/A
South Gate*	STR/MISC	\$1,500	0	ILL
Temple City*	MISC	\$80,000	0	UNC
Walnut		0	0	N/A
West Hollywood		0	0	N/A
Westlake Village		0	0	N/A
Whittier	MISC	\$500	1	ILL/UNC/SAS
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$230,625</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Pages 3 and 4</b>				

\* Cities permitting the sale of "Safe and Sane" fireworks

\*\* Types of Incidents:

STR = Structure VEG = Vegetation MISC = Miscellaneous Property

\*\*\*Types of fireworks:

ILL = Illegal

UNC = Unclassified SAS = Safe and Sane

**INCIDENTS, FIRE LOSS, INJURIES AND TYPE OF FIREWORKS BY  
UNINCORPORATED AREAS**

<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Type of Incident*</b>	<b>Fire Loss</b>	<b>Number of Injuries</b>	<b>Type of Fireworks**</b>
Altadena		0	0	N/A
Antelope Valley		0	0	N/A
Arcadia – County		0	0	N/A
Athens		0	0	N/A
Azusa – County		0	0	N/A
Baldwin Hills		0	0	N/A
Carson - County	MISC	0	0	SAS
Catalina		0	0	N/A
Compton – County	MISC	0	0	ILL
Covina – County		0	0	N/A
East Los Angeles	MISC	0	0	ILL
Florence – County		0	0	N/A
Hacienda Heights		0	0	N/A
Hawthorne– County	MISC	0	0	ILL
Industry – County	VEG	0	0	ILL
La Crescenta		0	0	N/A
La Puente – County		0	0	N/A
Ladera Heights		0	0	N/A
Lake Los Angeles		0	0	N/A
Lancaster – County		0	0	N/A
Lennox		0	0	N/A
Little Rock– County		0	0	N/A
Llano – County		0	0	N/A
Malibu – County		0	0	N/A
Marina Del Rey		0	0	N/A
Pasadena – County		0	0	N/A
Palmdale – County		0	0	N/A
Quartz Hill	VEG	0	0	ILL/UNC
Rowland Heights		0	0	ILL
Santa Clarita County		0	0	N/A

South Central L.A.		0	1	ILL
San Gabriel-County		0	0	N/A
Valencia		0	0	N/A
Universal City		0	0	N/A
Valinda		0	0	N/A
Val Verde		0	0	N/A
Walnut Park		0	0	N/A
Whittier – County	STR	\$500	0	ILL
Willowbrook–County		0	0	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$500</b>	<b>1</b>	

\* **Type of Incident:**

**STR = Structure    VEG = Vegetation    MISC = Miscellaneous  
Property**

**\*\*Type of Fireworks:**

**ILL = Illegal                      UNC = Unclassified                      SAS = Safe and Sane**

NOTE: The sale of all fireworks is prohibited in all unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles.

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**FIREWORKS ACTIVITY  
BY BATTALION**

<b>Battalion</b>	<b>Fire Incidents</b>	<b>Fire Loss Structure</b>	<b>Fire Loss Misc</b>	<b>Brush/Grass Acres Lost</b>	<b>Injuries (Civilian)</b>	<b>Type of Fireworks*</b>
01	0	0	0	0	0	<i>N/A</i>
02	0	0	0	0	0	<i>N/A</i>
03	3	\$20,500	\$5,500	0	1	<i>ILL/UNC</i>
04	2	0	\$ 500	.21	0	<i>ILL</i>
05	0	0	0	0	0	<i>N/A</i>
06	1	0	0	0	0	<i>ILL</i>
07	4	\$45,000	0	0	0	<i>ILL/UNC/SAS</i>
08	6	\$500	\$1,100	.23	1	<i>ILL/UNC/SAS</i>
09	1	\$300	0	.11	0	<i>UNC</i>
10	5	0	\$80,100	0	0	<i>ILL/UNC/SAS</i>
11	6	0	0	.75	0	<i>ILL</i>
12	2	0	\$1,000	.21	0	<i>ILL</i>
13	4	\$21,000	\$500	.50	0	<i>ILL/UNC</i>
14	1	0	0	.11	0	<i>ILL</i>
15	0	0	0	0	0	<i>N/A</i>
16	5	\$10,100	0	3.00	0	<i>ILL/UNC</i>
17	4	0	0	.93	0	<i>ILL</i>



18	7	\$40,000	\$25.00	0	0	<i>ILL</i>
19	2	\$5,000	0	.11	0	ILL
20	0	0	0	0	1	ILL/UNC
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>\$142,400</b>	<b>\$88,725</b>	<b>6.16</b>	<b>3</b>	

\* Type of fireworks  
 ILL = Illegal  
 UNC = Unclassified

**SAS = Safe and Sane**

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SUMMARY OF LOSS AND INJURY BY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

<b>1<sup>st</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	13	2	15
Fire Loss	\$48,700	0	\$48,700
Injury	1	0	1

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	9	3	12
Fire Loss	\$85,025	0	\$85,025
Injury	0	1	1

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	0	0	0
Fire Loss	0	0	0
Injury	0	0	0

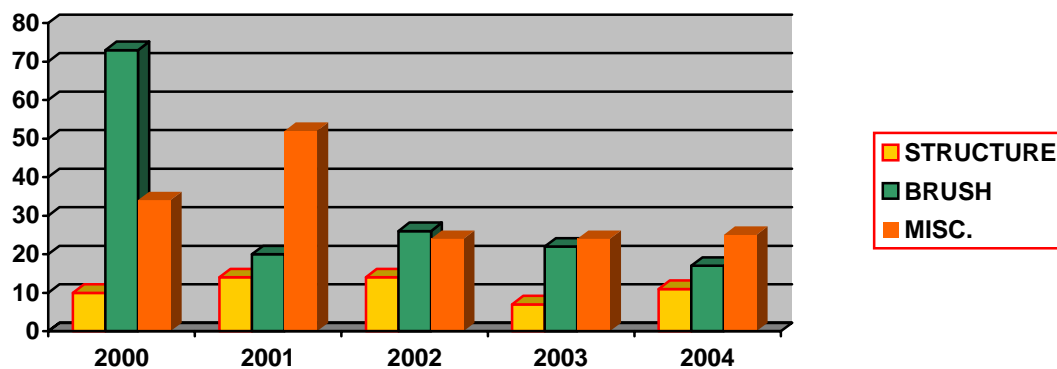
<b>4<sup>th</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	9	1	10
Fire Loss	\$6,400	\$500	\$6,900
Injury	1	0	1

<b>5<sup>th</sup> District</b>	<b>Cities Served</b>	<b>Unincorporated Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>
No. of Fires	14	2	16
Fire Loss	\$90,500	0	\$90,500
Injury	0	0	0

## FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

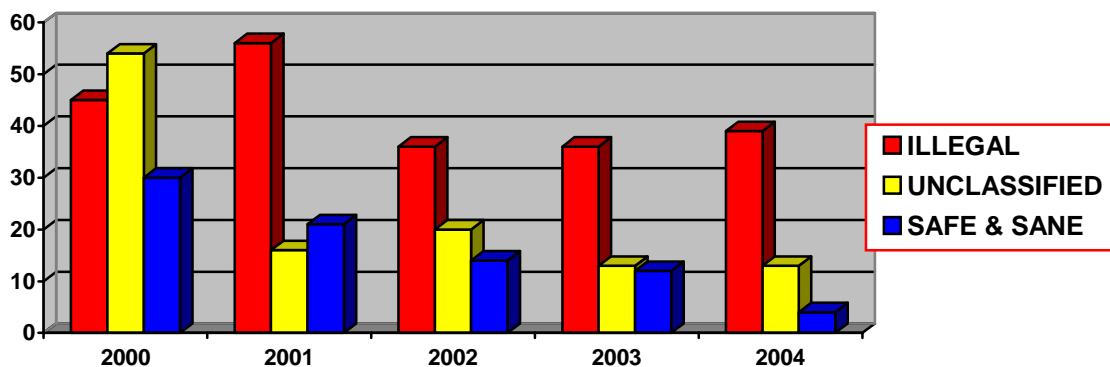
### NUMBER OF FIRES AND TYPE

<i>Year</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>
<b>Structure</b>	10	14	14	7	11
<b>Brush</b>	73	20	26	22	17
<b>Misc. Prop.</b>	34	52	24	24	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>



### TYPES OF FIREWORKS INVOLVED

<i>Year</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>
<b>Illegal</b>	45	56	36	36	39
<b>Unclassified</b>	54	16	20	13	13
<b>Safe &amp; Sane</b>	30	21	14	12	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>

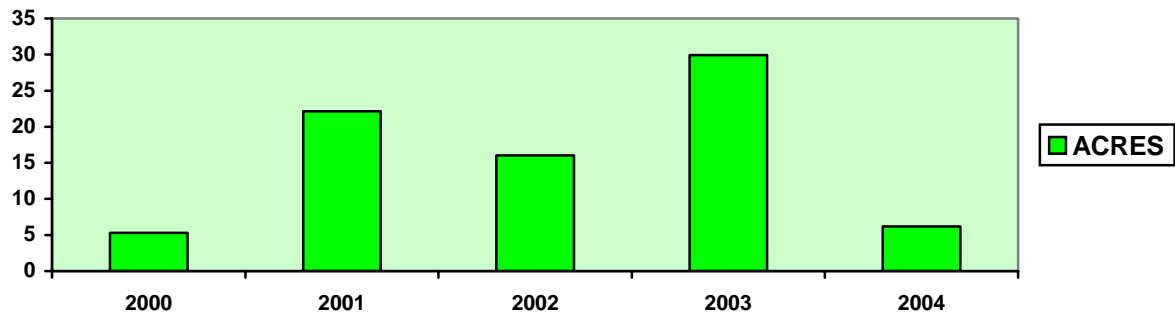


## FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

(Continued)

Acres of Brush or Grass Destroyed

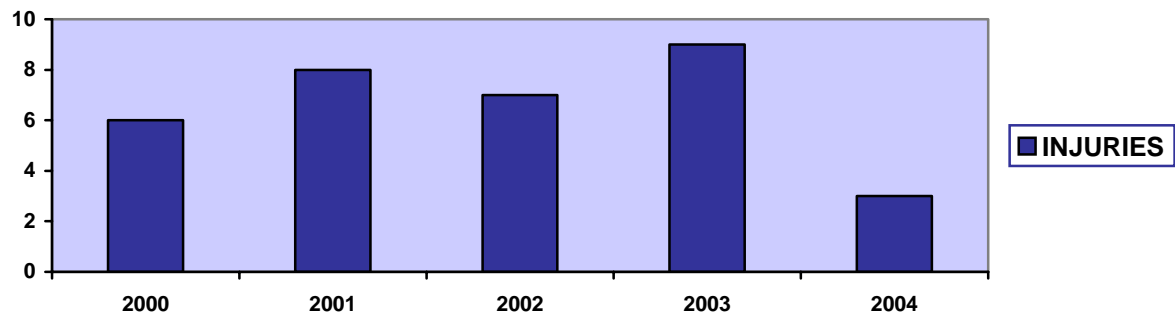
<i>Year</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>
<b>Acres</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>22.17</b>	<b>16.03</b>	<b>29.93</b>	<b>6.16</b>




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**Injuries Caused by Fireworks**

<i>Year</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>
<b>Injuries</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>



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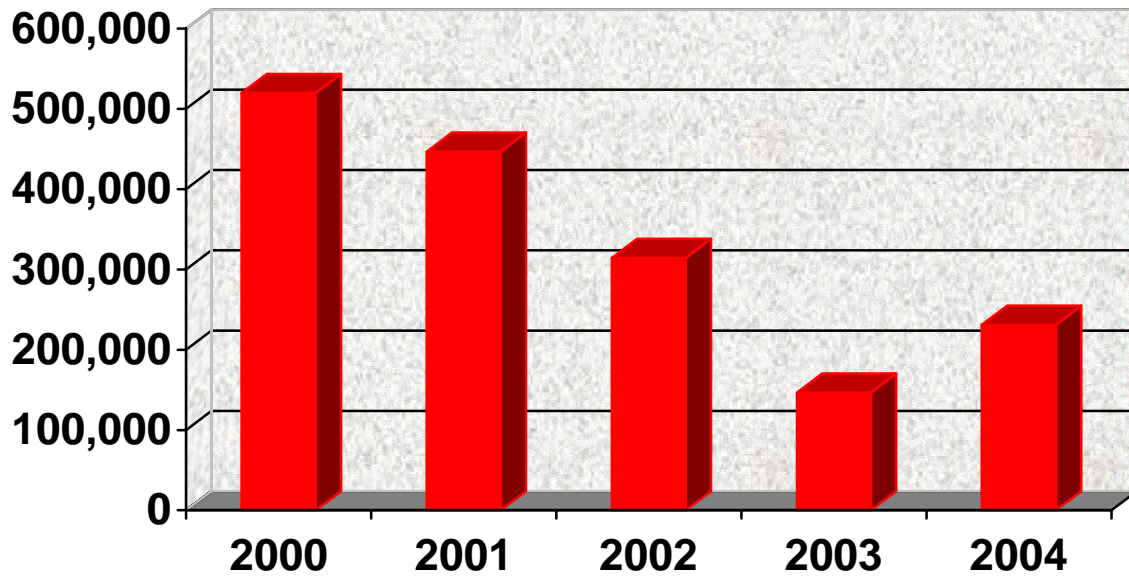
FIVE YEAR FIRE LOSS STUDY  
STRUCTURE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTY

*CITIES AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS*

*2000– 2004*

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Fire Loss	\$519,869	\$446,885	\$314,210	\$146,470	\$231,125

**Structure and Miscellaneous Property**



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FIVE YEAR COMPARISON STUDY  
COMBUSTIBLE ROOF FIRE LOSS  
CITIES AND INCORPORATED AREAS  
*2000 - 2004*

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Fire Loss	\$500	\$180,500	\$15,100	\$20	\$25,900

**Combustible Roof**

